East Timor Independence Centre

PO Box 9716, Wellington, New Zealand

TL 4095

Harry Bruhns
11 October 1986

ACFOA
124 Napier St
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Dear Chairperson

EAST TIMOR DESK PROPOSALS

The Wellington East Timor Independence Centre has been told that ACFOA is considering the dissolution of the part time position that includes work on the East Timor situation, that is, the position currently held by Pat Walsh.

We of the Centre, and many others who are aware of the enormous sufferring that the East Timorese people have undergone, and the equal enormity of the injustice that they still suffer (while so much of the world is silent), beg you to reconsider any such plan.

Pat's work on this issue has played a major part in keeping alive some public and political awareness of East Timor. Hence the resources that ACFOA has made available for this position have been, and still are, vitally important to the implementation of the principles of sharing and justice upon which aid organisations are founded.

We understand that a lack of funds is one of the reasons for the possible dissolution of this position. Perhaps a joint effort between groups in Australia and New Zealand should be considered.

Please accept our gratitude for your support of work for the East Timorese people in the past.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

Harry Bruhns
for East Timor Independence Centre